

Multimedia Mania:

Dangerous Opportunity?



Scenario:

Social Selah is finally a senior, ready to graduate and very excited about it! She has bittersweet emotions and wants to commemorate the years that she has spent with her classmates in a meaningful way. She and her friends ask students to bring in photos of themselves and their friends that they have collected throughout the years. They plan to create a video that shows a slide show of these images backed by popular songs that will enhance the emotions they each feel.

Question:

Are Selah and her friends breaking the copyright law by doing this?

If so, what are they allowed to do and what must they avoid to appropriately follow the law?

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1. Link [here](#) to read Stanford University's chapter on Public Domain and answer the following questions:

What is Public Domain?

What are the four ways material is considered Public Domain?

2. Link [here](#) to the PhotoNotes.org dictionary and look up the term: Fair Use.

Describe the term Fair Use in two to three sentences.

3. Link [here](#) to read Stanford University's chapter on Fair Use.

Please name each of the four factors and describe each in one to two sentences.

Do all four components have to be in place for a situation to legally be fair use or just one of the four components?

4. Link [here](#) to the PhotoNotes.org dictionary and look up the term: Royalty-free.

Please describe the term royalty-free in two to three sentences.

Does royalty-free (sometimes referred to as copyright friendly) mean that you never have to pay for the use of the image, sound, or video?

5. Link [here](#) to the Public Domain Information Project and answer the following questions:

When does music fall into the "public domain"?

How can one tell if music is in the public domain?

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6. Link [here](#) to Bloomsburg University's Copyright/Fair Use Limitations page and answer the following:

You have been given an assignment to create a multimedia portfolio. A fellow classmate decides to download entire songs from the Internet to use as background music for a video clip in his portfolio. When the portfolio is completed, he decides to post it on his personal website on the Internet. He includes links on his Website for other users to download the music. After linking to Bloomsburg's site and reading the portion limitations and also considering the four factors of fair use, do you believe your classmate is behaving legally? Why?

7. Link [here](#) to University of Wisconsin's finding and using images site and answer the following questions:

What keywords will help you to locate images that do not hold copyright restrictions?

Can you use an image educationally AND publish it on a website legally?

8. Link [here](#) to Georgetown University's Plagiarism page and read the section entitled, *What about Copyright* and answer the following questions:

Do you need to cite images, sounds, or video even if they fall under all fair use guidelines?

9. Link [here](#) to Springfield Township High School Library's MLA/APA style guide and answer the following questions:

In what format must you cite images, sounds, and video that you use in projects? (Provide examples of each)

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10. Choose one of the following scenarios and decide how to appropriately handle the situation without violating copyright laws. Each group must map out a plan to resolve the scenario in a legally appropriate manner. Hand in your answers to your teacher.

Scenario # 1:

You are asked to help launch a new project for the yearbook this year. Your school has decided to create a video yearbook that will be available for sale to the entire student body. You want to include entire songs of popular music in the background of the various video clips.

How will you go about creating this video?

Scenario # 2:

You have decided to enter a literary scholarship contest. The first prize is a \$1,000.00 scholarship for college. All of the contestants must submit a 1,000-word essay on something they are passionate about. The winning essay will be published in the local newspaper. You decide you want to write about music. In order to help the reader relate to your feelings about your favorite song, you would like to include the words to an entire song in your essay.

How can you write your essay without breaking copyright law?

Scenario # 3:

You are involved in writing for the school newspaper. You have been asked to find a new and exciting school mascot to raise school spirit. The new mascot design must be ready to include in the first paper of the school year. Eventually, the new mascot will also be printed on shirts and sold to raise money for various events in the school. In an online search, you come across the perfect picture on a Website for a local amusement park.

Where will you get the design for the new school mascot?

11. Link [here](#) to take the copyright quiz and print your score for your teacher!

Teachers, link [here](#) for detailed lesson plan, printable answer sheet, and standards addressed.